

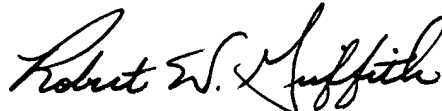
REMARKS

The present application was filed on September 29, 2003 with claims 1-20. Claim 20 has been withdrawn from consideration. In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner required election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §121. More particularly, the Office Action asserts that the present application contains claims directed toward the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: (a) Species I - FIGS. 1 and 2; and (b) Species II - FIGS. 3 and 4.

In this response, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Species I, i.e., FIGS. 1 and 2, for prosecution on the merits. Claims readable on FIGS. 1 and 2 include claims 1-14.

Applicants traverse the election of Species I because claim 1 is generic in that it reads on each of the species defined by the Examiner. Claims readable on FIGS. 3 and 4 may include claims 15-19, which are dependent from independent claim 1. The elements of claim 1 read on the embodiment shown in FIG. 3 in that there is at least one height-sensing pad on a top surface of an integrated circuit die, electrically isolated from circuitry of the die. Additionally, the elements of claim 1 read on the embodiment shown in FIG. 4 in that it includes position determination, bonding tool lowering, height determination, and wire-bonding steps. Accordingly, Applicants assert that, in the interest of conservation resources for the Patent Office as well as the Applicants, claims 1-19 should be examined together. Withdrawal of the election requirement in the present application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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